

COMMENT OF THE DAY

Housing

THE "doubts and misgivings" which the Hon. M. W. Lo expressed on Wednesday concerning Government's housing scheme are readily understood. They are, quite clearly, prompted not by any uncertainty as to the principles which have guided Government's decision, but by the magnitude of the project. No local authority in England would contemplate the provision of low-cost houses for 300,000 people without a sense of awe, and few, if any, would go so far as seriously to put forward such an undertaking to the Housing Ministry. But while it is true the size of Hongkong's housing scheme is equivalent to resettling a large-sized English city, our yardstick when it comes to doing something positive about housing has to be different. Any action to be taken must be commensurate with the magnitude of the problem, and so far as one can see the only agency which can aspire towards the needed target is Government. To date the provision of suitable, sanitary, uncrowded housing for the Colony's population has been restricted to the construction of flats and dwelling houses, rents for which can be met only by the middle or higher income groups. None will underestimate the valuable contribution which private enterprise has made in this way towards easing the housing shortage, but it still leaves untouched the real problem. Thus the question is posed: is anything or nothing to be done about it? If action is to be taken, then it must be of necessity, be on a large scale, otherwise the present defects its own end. In short it must be all or nothing.

IT was because we have long been convinced that housing must be tackled in a big way if it is to be tackled at all that we welcomed Government's project. We still do. This is not a matter of Government versus Private Enterprise. The essential requirement is to find the agency in the best position to promote and finance a full-scale low-cost housing scheme for the lower-income members of the community. Government appears to be the answer because it can at least sponsor a long-term undertaking permitting of capital recuperation over a 20 to 25 years' period. Private enterprise could not be expected to assume a similar obligation. This is a point which the Colonial Secretary failed to mention specifically when he referred to subsidies which he said Government was prepared to make available to the Housing Authority. It is, in effect, a hidden subsidy, but it remains an integral part of the low-cost housing scheme, more especially as the Hon. R.B. Black made it clear that rents are to bear a definite relationship to the real cost of the flats. Manifestly this can only be done, and at the same time make the accommodation available at rentals within the income of the tenants, if the charges against the capital account can be spread over a long period. The practicability of the official project has still to be tested. But it already possesses the merit of being the product of very careful thought; and to it can be applied valuable lessons derived from the pilot housing schemes. We believe it has a good chance of succeeding and eventually of giving to the less privileged sections of the Colony's population housing accommodation which they need, but which hitherto has been denied them.

£4 Million Trade Deal With Communist China

CONTRACTS SIGNED BY BRITISH BUSINESSMEN Cover Wide Range Of Commodities

Why Britain Said No To Indo-China Air Strike

From DEREK MARKS

Geneva, Apr. 29. Delegates here are attacking Britain in private conversation for her refusal to join America in an air strike to relieve the French garrison at Dien Bien Phu.

Now I can reveal three reasons why guided British decision. The plan was rejected at the highest level because:

1. It was assessed that an air strike would do nothing to relieve the situation for General de Castries' men.

2. It was assessed that such an air strike could not be an end in itself. Strong ground troops would be needed to follow up and thus Britain and America would at once take on a military commitment of unpredictable size.

3. It was assessed that such a strike would inevitably provoke the grave political and diplomatic repercussions that would have endangered the Geneva conference and that it might have been taken to justify Chinese intervention in Indo-China, thus precipitating a third world war.

ONLY A GESTURE

These assessments were arrived at independently by Britain's military and political experts. Both say an air strike at Dien Bien Phu could only amount to a military gesture which was bound to fail and almost certainly would produce a political and diplomatic disaster.

But among the French and American delegates here in Geneva different views are taken. The French, with some understatement, say Britain's attitude is "unpleasant."

The Americans are more forthright. They claim bluntly that aid for Dien Bien Phu was "blocked by the British."

But the British Government is convinced that its attitude is correct. British observers at Geneva and the question as being simply one of "does Britain want to provoke a third world war, or does she want to negotiate a settlement in the Far East?"

It is clear militarily and politically that no possible advantage could come from a carrier-borne air strike at the rebels around Dien Bien Phu.

British assessment of the situation is based on years of experience gained in Malaya. There is a much smaller country than Indo-China. Britain had 23 fighting battalions. A much greater force would be needed to secure a military conquest in Indo-China. — London Express Service.

Soviet Planes Violate Swedish Territory

Stockholm, Apr. 29. Military sources said tonight that Russian military planes—believed to be heavy bombers—wandered over Sweden last night.

"The direction of the planes revealed where they came from," said an Air Force spokesman.

The planes, possibly lost on a night over the Baltic Sea from the huge Soviet base facing the two world's Northern flank, aroused new concern in Southern Sweden, where only recently a flock of flying saucers reports inspired the belief that Communist-guided missiles were streaking over the Atlantic. The Danish motorship Fecaria radioed that a Czech twin-engine bomber circled it for two hours this afternoon in the North Sea between Britain and Denmark, just outside territorial waters.

Berlin, Apr. 30.

British businessmen have signed contracts worth £4,000,000 after five days' negotiations in East Berlin with the Communist China National Import and Export Corporation (CNIEC), it was announced at a press conference here last night.

Representatives of the 47 British businessmen attending the talks told the press conference that the contracts included Chinese orders for British chemicals, medicines, textile raw materials, machinery, electrical equipment, metals and cables.

In turn the British businessmen had ordered Chinese oils, silk and raw products.

The British businessmen also said they had opened relations with East Germany.

A spokesman for the British businessmen said the East German Chamber for Exports had asked them to a reception at East Berlin's Hotel Johannisplatz yesterday.

They had talks with a number of leading East German trade officials, visited an exhibition of East German export goods and saw a film on the East German industrial fair at Leipzig, Saxony.

The spokesman said most of the British businessmen attending the talks with the Chinese trade officials had received orders. They hoped to boost British-Chinese trade still more in the future.

A spokesman for the British groups said the order for Chinese silk consisted of piece goods.

The Chinese had given substantial order for tanning extracts and engineering products.

He added that though the group was now dispersing, he doubt a number of the British negotiators would have to return later to complete technical details and submit further orders arising from the talks just concluded.

The British spokesman said most of the businessmen expected to get export licences for the goods they had contracted to sell to the Chinese.

It was pointed out here that of the £15,000,000 deals made by British businessmen at Peking last July, only £11,250,000 were later contracted. Of these only £4,500,000 worth of British goods were in fact exported to China because the British authorities were reported to have refused licences for the rest.

The spokesman suggested that the deals at the East Berlin negotiations had purposely been limited to a far smaller volume of goods for which they could be expected to get export licences.

Branches of industry represented at the talks included rolled iron, steel for tools and shipyards, diesel engines, non-ferrous metals, textile machinery, generator plants, electrical equipment, scientific instruments and textile raw materials, the East German news agency ADN reported. — Reuter.

DIEN BIEN PHU

ASSAULT BY REBELS EXPECTED

Hanoi, Apr. 29.

Vietminh General Vo Nguyen Giap's next move will be a massive attack on Dien Bien Phu, where he holds the initiative.

That was the opinion expressed in competent circles in Hanoi who expect the present week to see a decisive issue in the battle.

Brigadier-General Christian de Castries, defender of the beleaguered camp, is awaiting the decision of the Vietminh headquarters to attack. The forces at his disposal do not allow him to try a counter-attack in force.

The situation in the entrenched camp is grave but not desperate. This is the expression now being used openly at Hanoi. General Giap has reported the forces at his disposal before making human wave attacks. Young recruits taken prisoner several days ago, one of whom was sixteen, received rushed military training and were sent to Dien Bien Phu to complete their training.

The Vietminh Commander-in-Chief has received continual supplies from Communist China over Colonial Route 3 from Cao Bang, and in particular petrol, food and munitions.

Among the supplies he has received by the River Namhong coming from South China have been hundreds of tons of rice weekly, which is difficult to requisition in the Red River Delta, as the harvest shops up as a very bad one.

On the other hand the Franco-Vietnamese have been reinforced and supplied by air as reinforcements and communications are extremely difficult.

The Vietminh have the equivalent of a division watching the railway between Hanoi and Haiphong. — France-Press.

Earth Tremors

Mexico City, Apr. 29.

A series of strong earth tremors were registered today by seismographs at the Tacubaya Observatory here.

The two shocks recorded at 10.53 and 11.28 a.m. GMT. The instruments indicated the disturbances took place at about 1,200 miles from here, probably in the vicinity of Costa Rica. — United Press.

Geneva Reactions To Casey's Speech

Geneva, Apr. 29.

A Soviet briefing spokesman commenting tonight on Mr Casey's speech before today's Geneva conference emphasised that the Australian Minister had said the North Korean proposals for solving the Korean problem, "although not complete, deserved attention."

An American briefing officer declined to comment later on suggested differences between today's speech by Mr Casey and yesterday's address by Mr Dulles.

The spokesman was asked whether differences between the two ministers were indicated by two apparently conciliatory points in Mr Casey's speech:

1. The Australian Minister's hope that South Korea would agree to all-Korean elections if this were necessary for final agreement.

2. Mr Casey's call for "careful consideration" of the proposals of General Nam Il, the North Korean Foreign Minister, for a joint commission elected by the two Korean parliaments to prepare for all-Korean elections.

The briefing officer replied: "No comment" to both questions.

Then he said: "I do not think I should comment on alleged differences between ministers."

EXCELLENT SPEECH

"Mr Casey made an excellent speech. He is an eloquent speaker and quite able to explain in plain whatever may be his case."

The American spokesman said the Communist delegates had congratulated Mr Molotov after his speech in the buffet room.

Asked whether Mr Dulles had congratulated Mr Casey, he replied: "I think so—yes he did."

A Soviet briefing spokesman said at a press conference tonight that the French and American press had reported yesterday's Molotov-Bidault talks on Indo-China "incorrectly."

Replying to a Mexican questioner who asked for his comments on French and American press reports of the meetings, he went on: "I have noted that in his question the journalist and not only him has represented the case that the Soviet Union is not human towards the question of the wounded (the French wounded from the beleaguered Indo-China fortress of Dien Bien Phu)."

"TENDENTIOUS"

"Nobody can fail to notice the tendentious nature of this statement."

"I should like to remind you that Mr Molotov has stated that the Soviet delegation feels sympathetic towards a decision on the question of wounded without delay."

"In order that this may be done, it is necessary that the representatives of each side meet immediately, if necessary at Geneva."

"The view of this statement by Mr Molotov is not at all to express my astonishment at the tendentiousness of the question and organs of the press regarding the position of the Soviet delegation." Asked if it were true that Vietminh representatives were present in Switzerland to be available for talks if called upon, the spokesman said: "I have no information."

A Chinese Communist briefing spokesman said in answer to a question at a press conference tonight: "The United States invaded and occupied Taiwan (Formosa) and violated Chinese territory. The Chinese people will surely restore Taiwan to China."

Asked by a reporter "how" he closed the conference by saying it was getting late, — Reuter.

Desperate Attempt To Escape From Ship

Kiel, Apr. 29.

Shouting that he would be shot if he returned to his ship, a seaman who tried to escape from the Polish steamer (Hugo Kolaba) by jumping into the Kiel Canal was today escorted back to his vessel in a dinghy while a Netherlands crew looked on powerless to help him.

The incident occurred at the Brunsbüttel Dock, east of Cuxhaven.

When he plunged into the water, the Netherlands sailors pulled him out and handed him over to the captain of a small German boat. But the Polish ship anchored and sent a dinghy to fetch the would-be escapee.

Later he was seen with his hands bound being escorted back to his vessel.

Going through the Kiel Canal takes several hours, but later the Kiel Maritime Police said they had not been warned in time to take action. — France-Press.

Soviets In Port Arthur To "Safeguard China From Japan"

Geneva, Apr. 29.

A Chinese Communist spokesman said here tonight that Soviet forces were in Port Arthur to "safeguard China and the Soviet Union from being threatened by Japan and the forces allied to Japan."

The spokesman was speaking at a briefing after today's Geneva Far Eastern conference.

A journalist asked the Chinese spokesman if Mr Chou En-lai's call yesterday for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Asia included the withdrawal of Russian forces from China.

The spokesman said: "Are you referring to Port Arthur?"

The journalist said: "Yes."

The spokesman then answered: "The use of the naval base of Port Arthur by Soviet forces is on the basis of the Sino-Soviet treaty of friendship and alliance—owing to the revival of Japanese militarism by the United States after the second world war—which threatens the security of China and the Soviet Union."

Another journalist interjected: "The Sino-Soviet treaty was signed before the Japanese peace treaty."

The spokesman then said: "There was originally the agreement that the use of the naval base of Port Arthur would be ended in 1952."

But because there is still no peace treaty between Japan and China and the Soviet Union, because Japan is becoming a follower of the aggressive policy of the United States, it is necessary to prolong the agreement on the use of Port Arthur to safeguard China and the Soviet Union from being threatened by Japan and the forces allied to Japan."

Asked if there were not Russian forces in other parts of China, particularly Manchuria, the spokesman answered: "Tell us any other place?"

"What about Russian military missions and technicians?" was the next question.

The spokesman replied: "It one does not want to be deceived by such fabrications given by the United States one should look upon them with contempt."

Pressed further about Port Arthur, the spokesman said the agreement on the use of Port Arthur was "for the purpose of preventing Japan, and forces connected with Japan, from restoring aggression against China and the Soviet Union."

"If Japanese militarism is not revived and if Japan becomes a Democracy and does not commit any aggression, then it would be very difficult to conceive that any other Asian country can start aggression."

"It is obvious then that the use of Port Arthur is for the purpose of the safeguarding of peace."

The spokesman was asked in what circumstances would China regard Japan having become a Democratic country, but he declined to answer.

The spokesman said: Mr Molotov's speech today had "the full support of the Chinese people and the Chinese Government."

He said in substance it was difficult to find any difference between the speeches of Mr Casey and Mr Dulles. — Reuter.

JACKIE COOPER MARRIED

Washington, Apr. 29.

Jackie Cooper, former child screen star who is now 31, and Miss Barbara Ann Kears, were married today in Municipal Court.

It was Cooper's third marriage and the first for 24-year-old Miss Kears. She works for an advertising agency. — United Press.

Another Revolt By Socialist MPs

London, Apr. 29.

Sixty-three Socialists staged a new "revolt" against their official leaders tonight, supporting a move—defeated by 219 votes to 63 votes—to prevent Britain from producing a hydrogen bomb without the consent of Parliament.

The 63 ignored the advice of Mr George Strauss, Labour official spokesman and former Supply Minister, and voted that a new clause to this effect be incorporated in the Atomic Energy Bill, now passed through Parliament.

The Anwarin Devan, Labour left-wing leader, who recently resigned from the party's "Shadow Cabinet" in a disagreement with the official line on Foreign policy issues, is believed to have voted among the 63.

Mr Strauss urged the Labour party not to vote for the clause. The official Labour Party line was to abstain from voting.

Mr Strauss said a vote for the clause was bound to give the impression to peoples abroad that Britain was prepared to take unilateral action in advance of an international effort to ban nuclear weapons.

COULDN'T HELP

Sir David Eccles, Minister of Works, said if the proposal made by Labour member Frank Beswick—was adopted, every-one would know Britain had not got the hydrogen bomb. That fact will be taken into the military calculations of a potential enemy.

He did not see how it could help Britain even to say at the present time, whether she had it or not.

Afterwards, some Parliamentarians described the development as a "Benavente" revolt as it attracted the support of some of the left-wingers' adherents. But the group was not confined to the Benavente and Mr Beswick, the sponsor of the clause, is not identified with the left-wing section.

No action will be taken by the Labour party against the 63. The vote may be construed as one, involving "conscience" Labour members feel strongly that Britain should not make hydrogen bombs and the Labour party allows much latitude in such cases.

The Bill was passed by 193 votes to 187. It now goes to the House of Lords. — Reuter.

TEN KILLED IN BUS DISASTER

Buenos Aires, Apr. 29.

Ten bus passengers were killed and seven were injured today when a bus plunged over the edge of a cliff near Mendoza in the Andes Range.

The bus was carrying a group of pilgrims. — France-Press.

Geneva, Apr. 29. The three Communist nations attending the Geneva conference have suggested that no session should be held on May Day—the International Labour Day holiday on May 1—a conference source said tonight.

The proposal has been circulated among non-Communist delegates. — Reuter.

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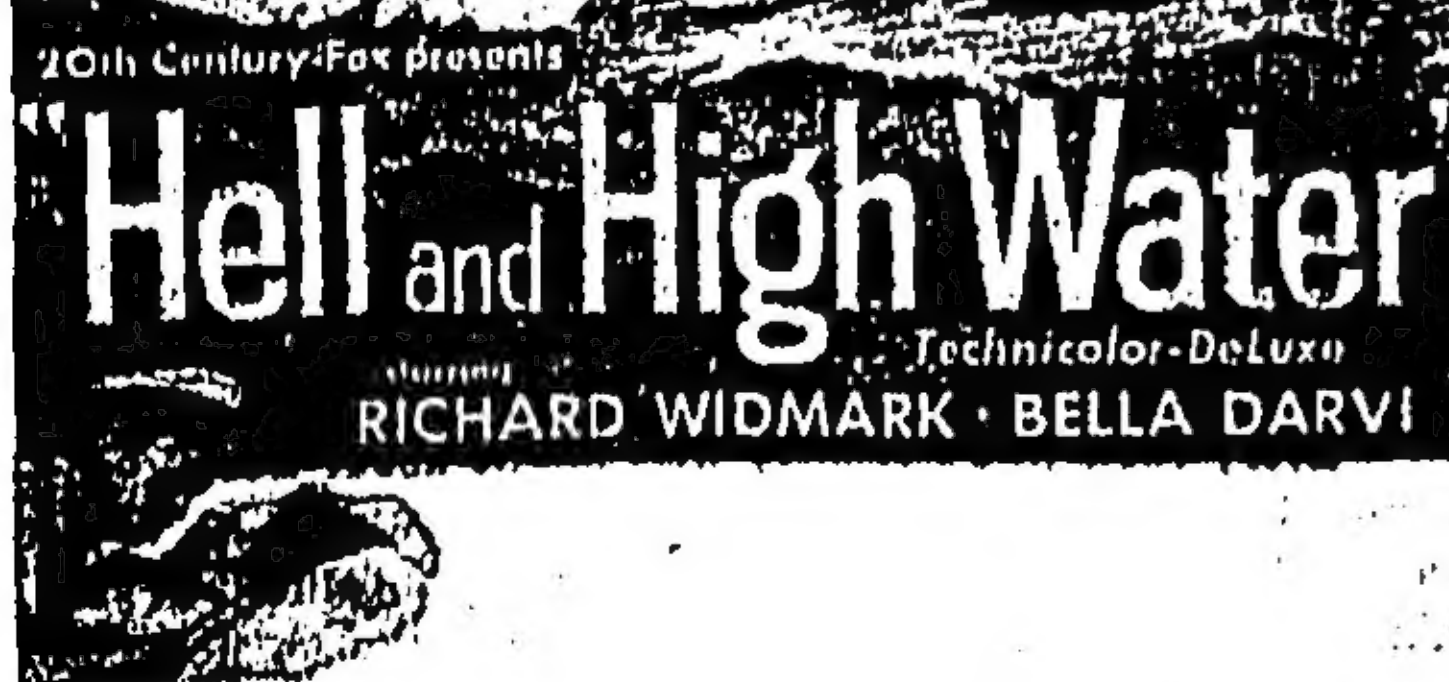
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Complimentary Tickets Are Not Valid For This Picture.ST. LAURENT REVIEWS HIS
ASIAN TOURHungry People
Pose
Huge Problems

Toronto, Apr. 29.

The Canadian Prime Minister, Mr. Louis St. Laurent, said yesterday if half the total Canadian budget were spent in aid and assistance, it could "not even scratch the surface" in solving the problems in Asia.

Addressing the Canadian press annual dinner meeting, Mr. St. Laurent said that there was "not much use talking about the abstract advantages of political freedom" to men and women who were perpetually hungry.

He said that the Western world must continue to build up its strength to deter aggression and turn "with generosity and understanding to the millions of people in Southern Asia struggling to improve their conditions."

Once A Rum
Runner, Now
Flat-Builder

Abner "Longie" Zwillman, one of America's most famous prohibition-era rum runners, hopes to use some of his millions to wipe out the slums in which he was born, according to New York reports.

The 50-year-old tall and handsome big-business man said he would put up an initial \$250,000 dollars towards a vast slum clearance project in Newark, New Jersey.

He hopes that eventually it will become a hundred million dollar building project, with modern flats and homes for "about 12,000 families who I've had lately in business."

Now living in a vast 24-room stone mansion in West Orange, New Jersey, Zwillman said that the slum clearance plan would start in an area near where he was born. But he refused to discuss the activities he pursued in his earlier years, merely declaring: "I am a respectable man who pays his taxes regularly."

Zwillman has been arrested six times, but he went to prison only once. That was after his last arrest, in 1928. He was fined 1,000 dollars for beating a man on the head with a black-jack.

His fortune is estimated at \$5 million dollars.
(London, Express Service)

Mountaineering
School
To Be Founded

Berne, Apr. 29.
Plans for the foundation of a mountaineering school at Dufouralp were announced here today by the Indian Minister to Switzerland, Mr. Y. D. Gundevia, presiding at a press conference given by the Swiss Foundation for Mountain Exploration.

The school is to be set up by the Indian Government, but Switzerland is involved in the preparation. The foundation had decided as a preparatory measure to invite the famous sherpas, Tensing, and six of his fellow experts, to visit Switzerland to learn what they could of Swiss methods. —France-Press.

Britain Still
Best
Orchid Grower

Britain still leads the world in orchid growing, say London reports.
As they packed up after their two-day show in the Horticultural Hall, London, last week, the members of the British Orchid Growers' Association rubbed their hands with glee.
Their pockets bulged with orders from America, Europe and Scandinavia. One plant sold for £40.
One grower is so high that one American firm has paid money into orchid growing in Britain.

He added: "I am convinced we must in a true spirit of equality and co-operation join in a world-wide concerted effort to help the peoples of Asia to obtain greater material advantages and the hope of a better future for themselves."

The Prime Minister devoted most of his three-thousand-word address to the problems of Southern Asia, where he spent some weeks on his recent 20,000-mile world tour.

He said his tour demonstrated there were "abundance of goodwill" for Canada which had a special opportunity to help in the problem of achieving understanding between Eastern and Western peoples.

"It is important for us to realize," Mr. St. Laurent said, "that the people of Southern Asia, because they have had so little direct experience of Russian imperialism, Communism or otherwise, are not inoculated as we are against the false ideals and promises of Communist propaganda."

BE THEIR FRIENDS

"On the other hand, they are apt to associate the whole Western world with the former imperialism they resented so deeply, and unless we can show them we really want to be their friends and to treat them as equals, we can hardly expect to enjoy their sympathy and enlist their support for the kind of peaceful world we are seeking to achieve."

Mr. St. Laurent said that the nations of Southern Asia were bound to play an increasingly important part in world affairs. Every opportunity to improve goodwill and understanding should be seized.

He said that an important aspect of Asian affairs was the desire of Asians for national independence and their "new sense of the dignity of the individual and the equality of all men regardless of origin or colour."

ADEQUATE FOOD

"One of the most important tasks they face is to assure an adequate supply of food, clothing and shelter to meet the minimum basic needs of their many millions of human beings."

"It is by assisting them to meet this challenge and encouraging them to achieve their goals that we can demonstrate our friendship and goodwill toward them."

Mr. St. Laurent gave details of Canadian assistance to India, Pakistan and Ceylon under the Colombo plan of 1948, which he said operated on the idea that "the Asian peoples themselves should decide how the money can best be spent."

He added: "I would not like to give you the impression the Colombo plan of 1948 will solve the problems of Asia. Half of our total national budget spent in aid and assistance, it could be properly spent that way, would not even scratch the surface." —China Mail Special.

She Helped Mrs Petrov Decide



Pictured here is 30-year-old Miss Joyce Bull of Hampstead, London. Miss Bull was stewardess aboard the B.O.A.C. Constellation which flew Mrs Petrov with her escort of armed Russian couriers from Canberra to Darwin. Following demonstrations at Canberra Airport when a weeping Mrs Petrov hustled aboard the aircraft, the Australian Government flashed a radio message to the Constellation in flight: "Ask Mrs Petrov whether she wants asylum." "Ask Mrs Petrov whether she wants asylum," Mrs Petrov replied that she did not want to go back to Moscow but was too scared to say so. Miss Bull, dark, smiling and efficient, assured Mrs Petrov that her husband was alive and that she was welcome to stay in Australia.

When the plane touched down at Darwin—its last stop in Australia, Mrs Petrov left the plane. —Express Photo.

At Geneva Kung Peng
Is A Different Girl

Geneva, Apr. 29.

Little more than 10 years ago, there was a vivacious and charming Chinese girl called Kung Peng who was the friend of all Western correspondents in Nationalist China's capital at Chungking.

It was in the war years when Mao Tse-tung's Communists were co-operating with Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalists in fighting the Japanese.

Kung Peng was then acting as liaison for Mao's right hand man, Chou En-lai. Her ready wit, gay laugh and appealing femininity stood her in good stead.

Today at the Geneva conference seeking peace in Asia, Kung Peng is Chou's mouth-piece. At the first press conference the Chinese Reds gave here on Wednesday, she whispered query among the rows of assembled correspondents was "who is that hard faced woman at the delegates table."

There sat Kung Peng—grim faced, with expressionless eyes. She sat with five Chinese Communist delegates at the left hand of press spokesman Huang Hua. She was dressed in a drab Chinese workers' uniform style dark blue dress, her black hair tightly dragged back into a bun, chain smoking and staring malvolently at the assembly with no sign of recognition for those who had known her in happier days.

NO SMILES

Western reporters with memories of Chungking days sought to speak with Kung Peng after the press conference. Her narrowed eyes gave no sign of friendliness. There was no smile, no welcome, only a tautened expression as Kung Peng strode purposefully out of the conference hall with her five comrades.

In her Chungking days, Kung Peng spoke excellent English and had a wealth of American and British repertoire. At the Chinese press conference yesterday she took Huang Hua's place—but spoke no English and indicated that she did not understand any questions in English.

One question she was asked was "Please tell us your name." She tightened her lips when the question was translated, hesitated, narrowed her eyes and answered defiantly: "I am Kung Peng."

It was hard to believe. —United Press.

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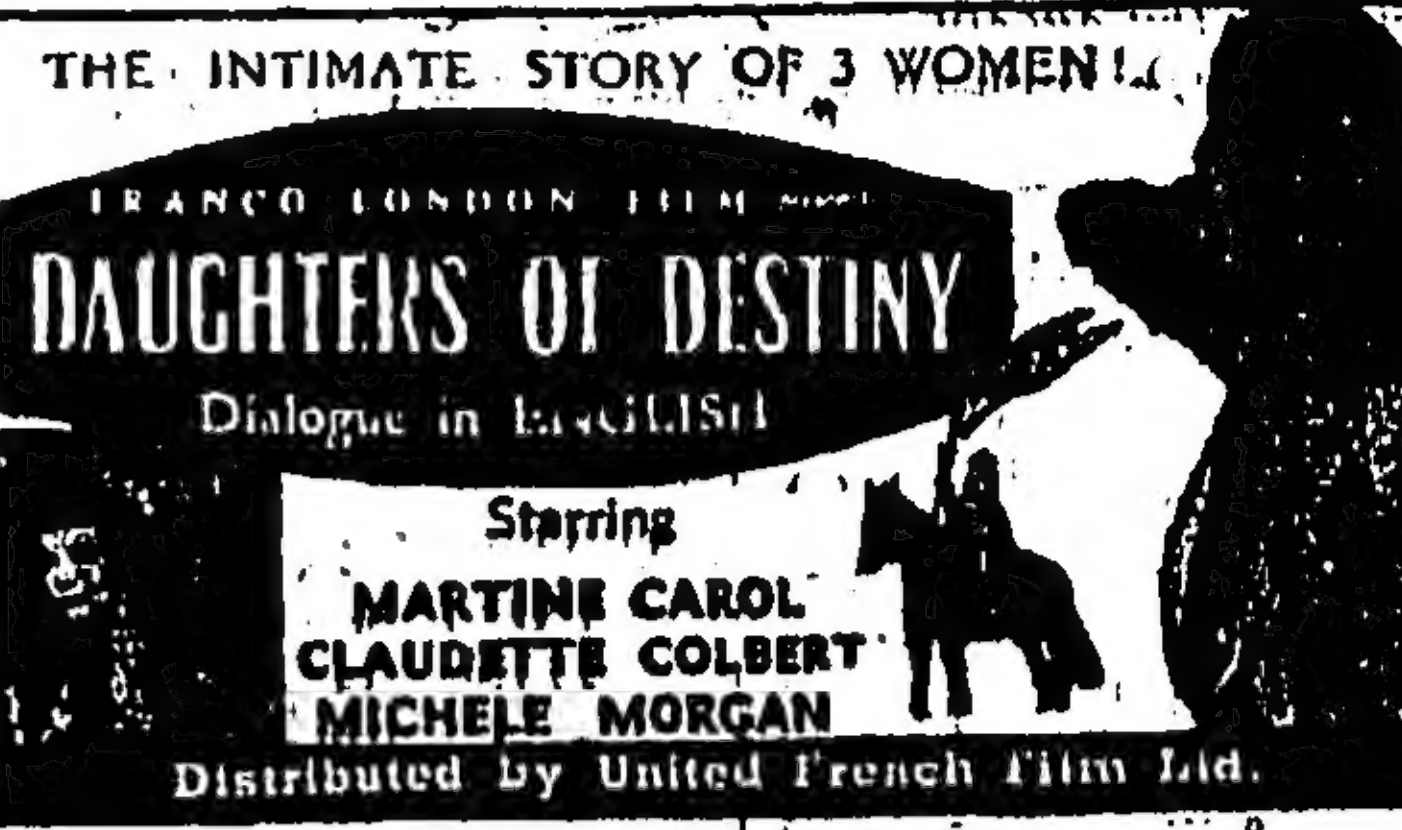
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ASIAN PREMIERS DISAGREE ON

INDO-CHINA

Pakistan's Reported Objection To Non-Intervention BUT AGREEMENT ON THREE OTHER POINTS

Colombo, Apr. 29.

The Asian Prime Ministers' conference today failed to agree to a resolution on Indo-China because the Pakistan Premier, Mohammed Ali, declined to commit himself to a proposal for non-intervention by the United States, Soviet Union, Britain and China, according to reliable sources.

When the preliminary talks on Indo-China ended this morning, general agreement had been arrived at on three points, namely:

1. A need to create a climate of peace.
2. Immediate ceasefire.
3. Declaration of complete independence as soon as possible.

When the official committee was asked to prepare a draft resolution on a basis of discussion, sharp differences became apparent between India, Burma and Indonesia on the one hand and Pakistan on the other.

While the conference is believed to have agreed on points relating to the resolution on Indo-China, the Pakistan Premier objected to non-intervention in Indo-China, forming part of the resolution.

Controversy was raging when the conference adjourned this evening.

An official communiqué issued at the end of the day's session said "the conference continued its discussion of the question of Indo-China. This question will be further discussed tomorrow. Other questions discussed today were those of the hydrogen bomb, colonialism and Communism. Draft resolutions upon these questions are under consideration."

The Prime Ministers are believed to have agreed that "colonialism must withdraw from Asia" and that there should be a standstill on the hydrogen bomb and atomic weapons tests. But sharply divergent views were expressed on the resolution on Communism, which is believed to have been prepared by Ceylon and proposed by Pakistan.

BIGGEST DANGER

The resolution, it is understood, names "international Communism" as the biggest potential danger to democracy in the region and urges that in order to meet it, there should be:

1. Retention of faith in democracy.
2. Evolution of measures to prevent interference of international Communism, and
3. Exchange of information within the region to assist in democracy.

The fulfilment of the resolutions of the conference, India and Indonesia were opposed to the resolution. Mr. Nehru is believed to have said that the position enunciated in the resolution would not be consistent with the policy of non-alignment with either of the power blocs—a view endorsed by the Indonesian Premier.

Mr. Mohammed Ali's opinion is stated to be that Communism is a greater evil compared with colonialism which was declining.

In view of the controversy resolutions on Communism and Indo-China, it is understood to have been sent back to a committee of officials for any necessary modifications. They will come up for consideration tomorrow—the last day of the conference.

Today's proceedings appeared to have dampened enthusiasm in informed quarters who have been looking forward to the conference, expressing itself in a report on such vital issues as Indo-China.—Reuter.

Narriman To Wed Again

Calcutta, Apr. 29.

Former Queen Narriman will marry a handsome young doctor, Adham el Nakeeb, next week in what a family spokesman said would be a "marriage free of social discrepancy."

The divorced wife of former King Farouk will be wed in a simple ceremony at her villa in Heliopolis, a suburb of Cairo. A family spokesman said only close relatives of the bride and groom would be invited. Asked whether this was a "love match," the spokesman told a reporter: "The engagement resulted from mutual sympathy and understanding. We expect the couple to have a happy married life. Unlike her marriage to Farouk, this marriage will be free of social discrepancy. Both the bride and groom belong to the same class and age bracket."

"Adham is a gentle, well-bred young man. He may be expected to devote himself to his wife, unlike Farouk, who had so many other distractions."—United Press.

Another Big Round-Up

Nairobi, Apr. 29.

More than 2,000 British troops supported by police today raided Nairobi's industrial area in rounding up nearly 2,000 Kikuyu, Embu and Meru tribesmen.

About 1,000 of the tribesmen suspected of Mau Mau activities were taken to a screening camp here for further interrogation and possible transportation to detention camps.

Today's round-up was part of "Operation Anvil" which went into action here last Saturday to clear the Nairobi district of Mau Mau and Mau-related elements.

Nearly 10,000 tribesmen and their families have now been sent out of the city and 5,000 more are being screened.—Reuter.

From Gaol To Wedding



Allowed to leave Brixton Gaol for the ceremony, Peter Aron, 32, former R.A.F. pilot, walks hand in hand with his bride—the former Miss Michaela—after their wedding at Marylebone, London, Register Office last week. A detective was present at the wedding. Aron, who will leave by plane within a few hours for Israel, has been held for three weeks under security regulations for being an alleged Communist agent and sending information on the activities of free Czechs in London to Czechoslovakia. He has denied the charges.—Reuterphoto.

Another US Carrier Brings More Planes To Indo-China

Hanoi, Apr. 29.

A United States aircraft carrier arrived in Indo-Chinese waters tonight with reinforcements of badly-needed planes to bolster the exhausted defenders of Dien Bien Phu, now in their 48th day of constant siege.

A naval spokesman said that the 11,000-ton U.S.S. Belleau Wood carried 20 Grumman "Hellcat" shipboard fighters and Curtis "Helldiver" dive bombers.

While not much—either in number or quality—the planes were a welcome addition to the French forces. There are only about 250 combat planes in Indo-China.

At Dien Bien Phu, Vietnamese legions maintained minor ground attacks against the east and west faces of the isolated camp but there was no conclusive action.

The High Command reported 70 rebels killed in the last 24 hours. The Communists did not succeed in pushing the French Union's defenders back anywhere although they were less than 100 yards from the French positions in many places.

Pressure against the isolated southern outpost, "Isabelle", meanwhile let up, French Union troops creep out to fill jump-off trenches close to the defence lines.

A light rain presaging the onset of the full monsoon cut ground and air activity in a minimum. Rebel 75-mm artillery pounded the northern sector where the Reds hold more than half the ruined airstrip.

600 VOLUNTEERS

The military authorities disclosed that some 600 volunteer troops have been parachuted into Dien Bien Phu in the past week. But with the rainy season arriving, there was uneasiness expressed here that Red General Vo Nguyen Giap might be able to stifle the defenders through lack of supplies. The garrison has been getting an average of 170 tons a day by parachute. But officials said that the French have only been able to build up a three-day reserve of ammunition if fighting gets violent under a third "human wave" assault.

Improved weather over northern Tonkin allowed air strikes—massive by Indo-China war standards—against Giap's supply lines.

Naval fighters and fighter-bombers, including speedy American-supplied Corsairs armed with 1,000-lb. bombs and rockets, gunned at the main

strong enough to cut off the arrival of all rebel convoys at Dien Bien Phu. More than 100,000 supplies are being sent to the beleaguered garrison.

The Belleau Wood, completed in 1943, was loaned to the French to aid the Indo-China war. It was due to sail for Hanoi tomorrow. Later it will join the carrier Arcturion, which is the only other carrier in the Indo-China waters.—Reuter.

Army-McCarthy Hearings

Private Schine Drops A Bombshell

Washington, Apr. 29.

Private G. David Schine dropped a bombshell in the Army-McCarthy hearings today by swearing under oath that the Army Secretary, Mr. Robert T. Stevens asked to be photographed with him at Maguire air force base on November 17.

Mr. Stevens previously had sworn at the Army-McCarthy hearings that he never asked to have his photograph taken with Schine "alone." He said he might have suggested at Maguire, "come, let's gather around and have our picture taken." But he said he could not even recall saying that.

Schine, handsome son of a millionaire hotel-theatre family and the man in the middle of the Army-McCarthy row, rocked the sixth day of the stormy televised hearing by declaring in response to a question:

"I was asked by the Secretary to stand next to him and be photographed."

Schine, who was an unpaid consultant to Senator McCarthy, was called to the witness stand unexpectedly to testify about a photograph introduced on Monday by the McCarthy side of the controversy.

The photo became a key issue when the Army charged that the McCarthy side had produced a "doctored" picture designed to show Private Schine and the Secretary alone.

It was brought out that the original photo showed a third person—Air Force Colonel Jack R. Bradley—and the coat and sleeve of a fourth person. Senator McCarthy's chief counsel Roy M. Cohn originally produced the picture in support of Senator McCarthy's charge that Mr. Stevens tried to get him to call off his investigation of alleged Communist infiltration at the Fort Monmouth, N.J., Signal Corps laboratory.

The Army has accused Senator McCarthy and his aides of using "improper means" to try to get favored treatment for Schine, who was drafted after efforts to get him a commission failed.

Earlier Mr. Stevens' counsel was accused of trying to get the Commander of Fort Monmouth to withdraw security suspension recommendations at the time when Senator Joseph R. McCarthy was investigating alleged subversion at the radar centre.

Mr. Stevens said that it is "entirely possible" that he told his counsel, Mr. John G. Adams, to take such action, though he did not recall doing so. He also is "entirely possible" that Mr. Adams acted on his own.

The charge was made in a written statement by the Monmouth Commander's aide and was presented at the 11th session of the Senate investigating Sub-Committee's hearings on the Army-McCarthy case. It was produced during cross-examination of Mr. Stevens on Mr. McCarthy's charge that the Secretary tried to block his investigation last autumn at the Army's New Jersey Signal Corps installation.

According to the charge, Mr. Adams telephoned the Fort Monmouth Commander, Major-General Kirke B. Lawton, and asked him if he would withdraw his suspension recommendations. Lawton refused, asserting that was Mr. Stevens' "responsibility."

"A Lot Of Guts"

The 11th sessions produced these highlights:

(1) Mr. McCarthy said that General Lawton showed "a lot of guts" in co-operating with his investigation though the General said it would "kill his chances of promotion." Mr. McCarthy produced a report showing an Army Promotion Board did "pass over" Lawton.

(2) Mr. Stevens, who said that he once considered General Lawton from Fort Monmouth, denied that he had planned any "reprisal" against him. He said he wanted General Lawton and all other commanders to use good judgment and not start a stampede of suspensions for "guilt by association."

(3) Pressed by hearing counsel Ray H. Jenkins for a "yes-or-no" answer as to whether he ordered Mr. Adams to make the call to General Lawton, Mr. Stevens said that Mr. Jenkins was taking "one incident out of perspective."

(4) Mr. Stevens showed signs of wearying after six days of testifying. Mr. McCarthy said that he had lots more questions to ask but would not object to Mr. Stevens taking an hour or a day off the witness stand whenever he got too tired.

Mr. Stevens several times said he could not recall whether he told Mr. Adams to try to get General Lawton to pull back recommendations for suspension.

He did not deny the charge that Mr. Adams made such a request of the General.

President Eisenhower said today he hoped the Army-McCarthy hearings would be concluded quickly.

The President added at his weekly press conference that he considered the subject to be something about which he did not want to talk.

Under questioning, however, he said disingenuously he had never discussed treatment by the Army of the man he referred to as "this Private."

The Private is G. David Schine, central figure in the controversy between Senator Joseph R. McCarthy and the Army.

He was asked what, as a former Commanding General of the Army, he thought of all the excitement in the Senate over Private Schine.

He replied he had been assured by Representative Clegg that the House would not delay the two Houses were not delayed.—United Press.

"God Pity The Russians If They Attack America" Says Mr Short

Washington, Apr. 29.

Chairman Dewey Short of the House Armed Services Committee said today the United States was so strong that Russia was afraid to attack. But if the Russians did attack, Mr Short told the House, "God pity them!"

Representative Clarence Cannon, a Democrat, said, however, that America would be "less than retaliate" if Russian bombers simultaneously attacked 80 big cities he said Russia has on a "priority list."

Is strong enough to instill that fear.

"They've already got that fear in mind," Mr Short replied. "Otherwise they already would have attacked long ago."

"What are they doing in Indo-China?" demanded Mr. Cannon. "They're not attacking us," he said.

Mr. Cannon said that the first time the United States faced a potential enemy with a war-making capacity "superior" to its own.

He referred to Russia's large army, submarine fleet, and to Soviet possession of atomic and hydrogen weapons. "They (the Russians) have nothing to fear," he said. "They have the atomic bomb and they are ready to use it. They are prepared to use it. They are prepared to use it. They are prepared to use it."—United Press.

Thieves Took His "Dream" Motor-bike

Tokyo, Apr. 29.

Thieves have snatched an Austrian visitor's real "dream." Edward Von Bun, who is touring-hitchhiking round the world, reported to police today his "dream" model motor bike was stolen yesterday, while he was giving lectures and showing colour slides of his hitchhiking world tour, at a hotel in Hakone Mountains near Tokyo, famous hot-spring resort in Japan.

He planned a round-trip of Japan, starting from Tokyo on Tuesday, on the motor bike which the Japanese Motor Bike Company gave him.—China Mail Special.

Israel And Egypt Blamed

Jerusalem, Apr. 29.

The United Nations chairman of the Israel-Egypt Armistice Commission today supported Egypt's complaints of Israeli violations of the Gaza frontier recently, but he also condemned an Egyptian attack on an Israeli patrol on April 25.

The Commission held an all-day meeting in the demilitarized zone near Gaza, where attacks and counter-attacks have flared this week across barbed fields.

On the agenda were two protests by Egypt and five by Israel, dealing with a series of shooting incidents after some of the barbed had been harvested by infiltrators.

The chairman upheld one Israeli complaint by abstaining from the vote. He rejected three charges against Egypt. He supported an Egyptian allegation that Israeli troops had subjected Egyptian prisoners to mortal and automatic weapons fire.

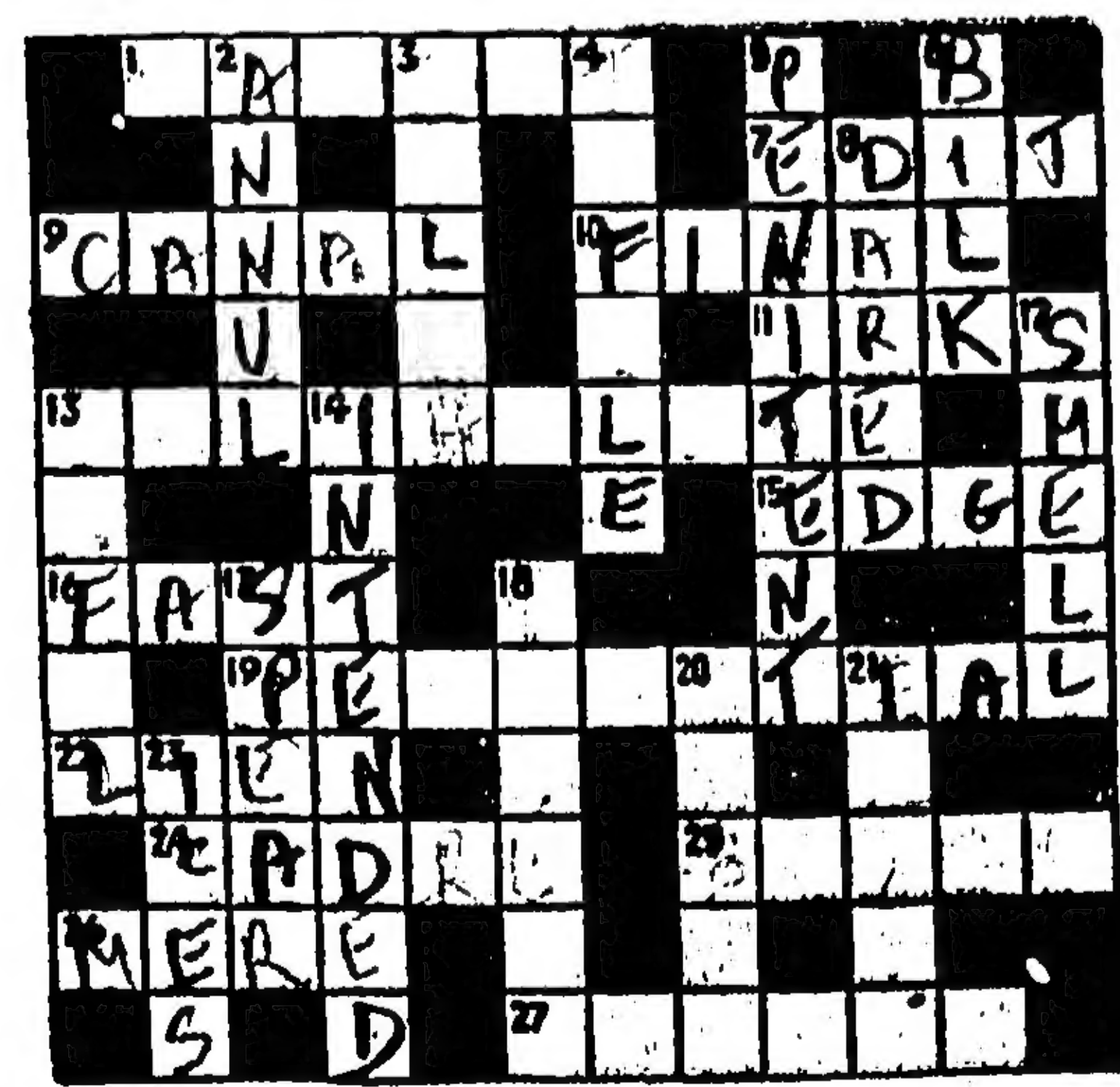
Israeli political circles tonight criticized what they called the chairman's "apparent disregard of Egyptian provocation." The Israelis allege Egyptians sniped at Israeli patrols and protected marauders.—United Press.

No Information Of Missing Men

Geneva, Apr. 29.

Wilfred Burchett, Australian newsman who covered the Korean war from the Communist side, said here today he had tried but had been unable to get any information on the whereabouts or fate of the three American newsmen captured by the Chinese Communists more than a year ago.—United Press.

A British Crossword Puzzle



- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Car accommodation (6). | 2 Conceal (5). |
| 7 Prepare for press (4). | 3 Distribute (5). |
| 9 Waterway (6). | 4 Struggle (6). |
| 10 Last (5). | 5 Constitute (6). |
| 11 Wearies (4). | 6 Cheat (4). |
| 12 Wipe out completely (10). | 7 Challenge (5). |
| 13 Border (4). | 8 Arouse (6). |
| 14 Fie! (4). | 9 Meat of a kind (5). |
| 15 Persevering (10). | 10 Had in mind (6). |
| 16 Legal right (4). | 11 Weapon (6). |
| 17 Go about begging (6). | 12 Appearance (6). |
| 18 Common (6). | 13 Reflect with disdain (5). |
| 19 Lake (4). | 14 Refrain (6). |
| 20 Muddle (4). | 15 Refreshments (4). |

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD.—Across: 1 Temple, 4 Ploce, 7 Errand, 8 Spume, 10 Brim, 12 Revised, 15 Noked, 16 Hole, 17 Even, 19 Camel, 20 Duffin, 21 Div, 23 Igloo, 24 Varied, 25 Grass, 26 Slaved, Down: 1 Trembled, 3 Martinet, 4 Land, 5 Impaired, 6 Compel, 8 Model, 11 Mollify, 13 Mackerel, 15 Slidily, 14 Defended, 16 Vulgar, 22 Part.



Sure of
a good welcome

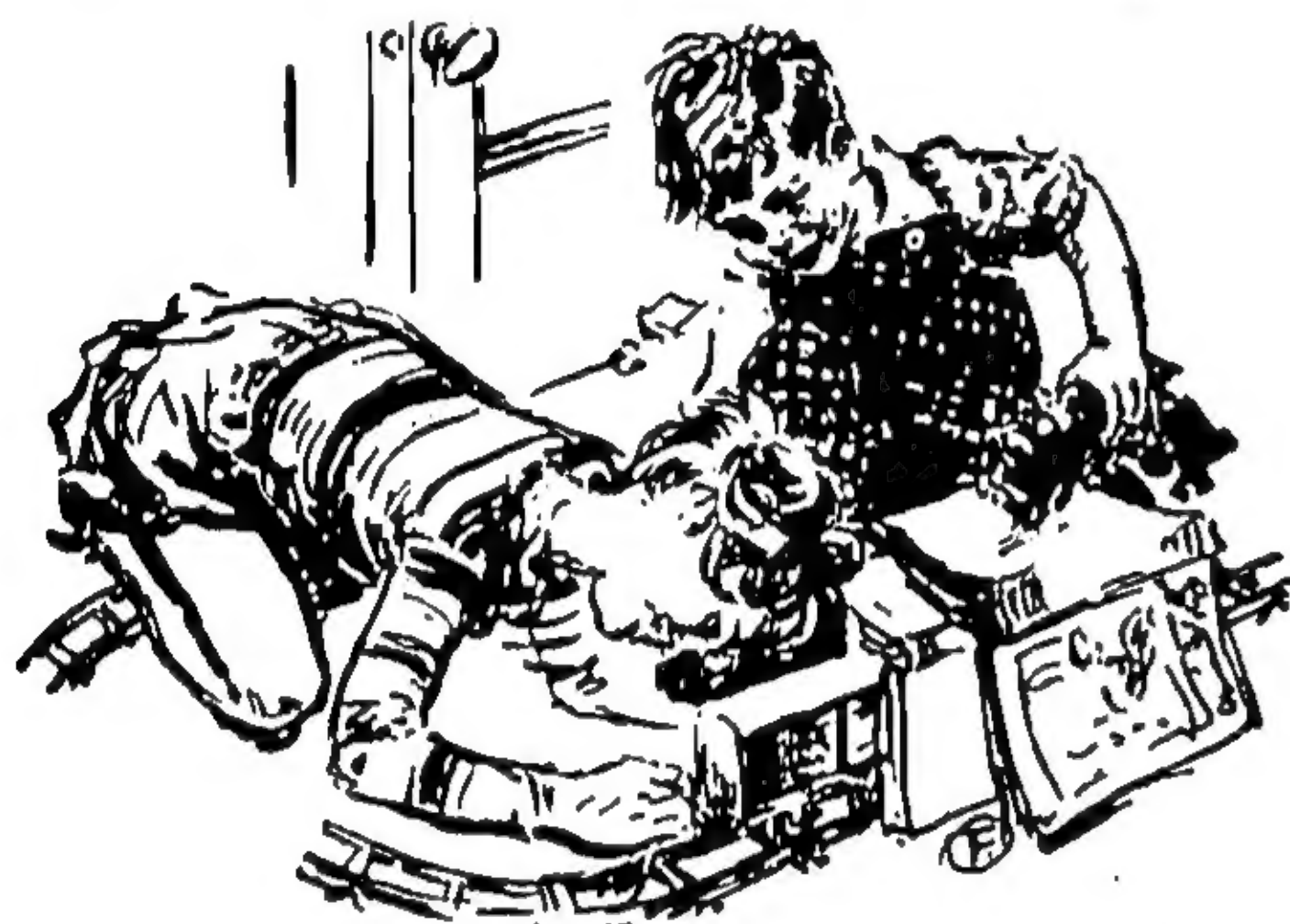
The host who serves Scotch Whisky is sure it will have a good welcome. When the Scotch is "Black & White" particularly warm approval is assured. Blended in the special "Black & White" way the extra quality of this grand Scotch makes it the most satisfying of all drinks.

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A Magician And His Wand

By GERALD BOURKE

SIR Thomas Beecham, doyen of British conductors, celebrated his 75th birthday yesterday.

For more than 50 years, he has devoted his musical genius not only to conducting superbly works by his favourite composers, notably Delius and Mozart, but also to administering—and often financing—various musical enterprises.

No conductor is the master of all, since each specialises to some degree, but if we unite service to music with ability, I would gladly place first this magician and his wand.

Born to a wealthy Lancashire family of industrialists, Thomas Beecham was brought up in cultural surroundings, and first heard orchestral music on his father's elaborate Swiss musical boxes. A local organist fired the boy's enthusiasm for Mozart, whose operatic characters soon became more real to him than his neighbours. His taste in clothes was even more fastidious, and his memory so retentive that, at the age of eight, he learned Shakespeare's "Macbeth" within a few days.

The rarefied upbringing was abruptly ended, when he entered Rossall public school, though he soon became acclimatised, and gained prestige by battling for four hours. During the holidays, he accompanied his father on one of his frequent business trips to America.

On going up to Oxford, Thomas Beecham wanted to become a concert pianist, or composer but also joined fully in University life, playing rugby for his college. At the time, however, all music students looked to Germany as an indispensable training ground, and he made several visits to Dresden and Bayreuth, the Wagnerian stronghold.

On return he composed a grand opera to his own libretto in the manner of Wagner but, more important, was invited to conduct the Halle Orchestra in place of the veteran conductor, Hans Richter, on one occasion. He was only 20 at the time.

In his witty autobiography, "A Mingled Chime," Beecham describes his efforts to add the trombone to the instruments he had tampered. "I retired to a remote corner of the cathedral graveyard, the quietest and most secluded spot in the place. Once again I was requested to take myself else-

where and I was finally reduced to the extremity of hiring a small boat and rowing to the middle of the lake, where at last I could let myself go on what by that time I had discovered to be without question the most unpopular medium of musical sound."

A wrist injury then forced him to abandon all thought of a pianist's career. Then in 1907 his meeting with the profound British composer, Frederick Delius, who was living near Fontainebleau, proved mutually beneficial. Thomas Beecham was at once attracted by his distinctive idiom, so remote from current trends. For his part, Delius was the first to recognise his friend's unquestionable gifts as conductor.

When we now enjoy the fine recordings made by Sir Thomas Beecham for the Delius Trust, we can remember their strong friendship, formed partly during holidays spent in Norway. Indeed, Sir Thomas seems happiest when conducting works by Delius, and always distils their full poetic beauty.

Three years later, Mr Thomas Beecham, as he then was, leased Covent Garden for seasons of opera in English, so breaking the long tradition of foreign seasons at the national opera. Delius's "A Village Romeo and Juliet" was mounted, and later London saw, for the first time, Richard Strauss's sensational operas, "Salome" and "Elektra," conducted by him in the face of strong aesthetic objections to the subjects.

New York sense. The percentage of dowdy women is very high in England," says the New York Journal-American.

CUT-THROATS on the stage of the Metropolitan Opera are no novelty to Rudolf Bing, British manager of the Met. But it is a bit dismaying to meet a real one at dusk in Central Park when you are quietly walking your dog.

The cut-throat who pressed a knife against Bing's throat got his wrist with \$70 in it and a \$40 wrist watch.

THE NOSE of Istvan Rabovaky is to be shortened by doctors, and then Istvan is to become a film star. He has been chosen to play Nipinsky in a Hollywood film of the famous ballet dancer's life. Istvan, you may

FASHION NOTE: "British males are rated the world's best-dressed men. British females are notoriously lacking in style."

There followed seasons with the Diaghileff Ballet, this time presented by his father with whom he had become reconciled after a nine-year estrangement.

In 1914, Sir Thomas Beecham was knighted for services to music, two years before succeeding to the baronetcy.

Between the wars, 1932 stands out as the year in which he founded the London Philharmonic Orchestra—with which he made several recordings, now justly famous—and became artistic director of Covent Garden.

Another notable postwar event was his entry into the



Sir Thomas Beecham (extreme left) with the Committee of the Royal Philharmonic Society—Dr Thomas Wood, Mr Julian Herbage and Mr Theodore Holland.

Today he conducts his fifth personally selected orchestra, the Royal Philharmonic, which includes many of Britain's best instrumentalists.

Sir Thomas is almost as well-known in America as in Britain. When he returned to Britain in 1945 after a long

pit at Covent Garden, for the 250th time when he conducted the 150th performance given there of Wagner's comic opera, "Die Meistersinger," for which he had selected outstanding Continental artists.

Last season, he gave a special series of popular con-

NEWELL ROGERS REPORTING AMERICA

Hidden Eyes Watch Gamblers

HONESTY will certainly be the safest policy, from now on, in the gambling casinos at Las Vegas, in the cactus State of Nevada.

For the casino owners have installed closed circuit TV.

Over their circuits they can see every roulette table, every dice-playing group in the luxurious gaming rooms.

They can watch crocheters for till-tapping, and patrons for cheating.

And nobody in the rooms will be aware of the all-seeing eye.

remember. Red from Communist Hungary to the West a year ago with his wife because they hated the "anopling and supervision there." The 24-year-old dancer had won Hungary's highest artistic honour, the Stalin Kossuth prize.

JUST after drought-ridden Texas finished praying for rain, a cloudburst fell on Alamo, Texas. Soldiers had to evacuate 150 households threatened by five-foot-deep floods.

MRS VERA BICE, aged 14, has had twin babies—a 6lb. 10oz. boy and a 6lb. 8oz. girl. She is from Columbus, Ohio. If her daughter follows her mother, she can be a grand-mother before she is 20.

Harold, 17, is 17. They sloped last year. Says Vera, "I guess I just got tired of school."

A Man And The Drug Menace

A YOUNG British police officer helped to round up tramps in Egypt. Five hundred of them—trembling, ragged, and glassy-eyed—were taken to police stations in Cairo. Mostly they were picked up while scavenging in dustbins for food.

Every man was a heroin addict.

From that day, 40 years ago, the young Englishman declared a personal crusade against the traffickers.

He died in London this month, aged 74. From that day in Cairo he became world famous for his fight to smash the drug ring.

He was Major-General Sir Thomas Russell—known to the world as Russell Pasha.

For 25 years he was head of the Central Narcotics Intelligence Bureau, and his patrols ranged the deserts searching for camel caravans carrying dope.

Russell Pasha became an anti-drug crusader when he realised that opium, heroin, cocaine, and hashish were being smuggled into Egypt in ever-increasing quantities.

PRICE RAISED

When he became chief of the Cairo police Russell—who never smoked more than 10 mild Egyptian cigarettes a day—tried all kinds of methods to rid Egypt, and the world, of the drug plague.

He raised the price of heroin from £30 a lb. to £300.

This put it out of the reach of the majority of the population. He also ordered hundreds of acres of poppies and hemp, which were a source of drugs, to be burned.

But this did not prevent the smugglers bringing the stuff in. Drugs were hidden in the wheels of donkey carts, leaves of bread, the clothes of bogus nuns and priests, inside dead chickens, and horses' nosebags.

Camels, of course, were mostly used by the smugglers. At the Kanakara desert frontier post, Russell Pasha set up his magic eye to watch the Levantine caravans. This X-ray apparatus was able to detect metal containers of drugs in the stomach and gullet of camels.

BURNING WORDS

Tail, lean, Russell Pasha, finally retired just after the war and went back to the Cotswolds to enjoy his hobbies of salmon fishing and shooting. But if you want to understand the kind of man he was, read this extract of a report he made on a Swiss drug trafficker—

"No visions of demented, tortured victims ever came to disturb him. No pictures of broken-down humanity turning to crime to obtain money to buy his drug, no vista of ruined lives, shattered ambitions, disrupted families ever troubled his dreams in the peaceful little Swiss suburb. He was just a plain business man."

Those were the burning words of a once-obscure policeman. But he was a dedicated man with the curious crusading quality of the British.

He found half a million drug-drunk peasants when he went to Egypt. When he left the country it was almost as respectable as an English tea garden.

WILLIAM TOWNSEND



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Have You Nominated YOUR Hongkong Footballer Of The Year?—See Next Page

Cockell Advances To Third Place In Ring Rankings

New York, Apr. 28.

Don Cockell of England was advanced to third rank among heavyweights today in the latest Ring magazine rankings, but England's Johnny Williams was dropped from the first 10 to make room for Jimmy Slade who went from third among lightweights to fourth among heavyweights.

Ezzard Charles continued as the No. 1 heavyweight contender, with Nino Valdes of Cuba second. Tommy Jackson, beaten by Slade on Monday night dropped from third to fifth, and Roland LaStarza, beaten recently by Cockell in London, was sixth, followed by Dan Bucceroni, Earl Walls of Canada, Heinz Neuhaus of Germany and Tommy Harrison of California in that order.

Jay Glardello of Philadelphia was top-ranked among middleweight contenders with Randy Turpin of England sixth. No other Europeans were among the top 10 middleweights. Nino Valdes was a possible lightweight opponent for the champion, ranked among the first 10 135-pounders.

Here are the champions and the 10 leading contenders in each boxing division according to the latest "Ring" magazine ratings announced today:

Heavyweight—Champion Rocky Marciano (Italy); 2. Ezzard Charles (France); 3. Don Cockell (England); 4. Jimmy Slade; 5. Tommy Jackson (Australia); 6. Roland LaStarza; 7. Dan Bucceroni; 8. Earl Walls (Canada); 9. Heinz Neuhaus (Germany); 10. Tommy Harrison (France).

Light Heavyweight—Champion Archie Moore (USA); 2. Joe Maxim (France); 3. Floyd Patterson (USA); 4. Billy Hogan (USA); 5. Paul Hecchi (Germany); 6. Paul Andrews; 7. Danny Nardone; 8. Jacques Habschied (France); 9. Bobby Hughes.

NOTICE

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

Special Cash Sweep on the Hong Kong Derby Saturday, 8th May, 1954.

Over 600,000 tickets sold to date.

The Sale of Cash Sweep Tickets on the above will close on Friday, 7th May, as follows:—

382 Nathan Road, Kowloon, at 4.00 p.m.

5 D'Aguiar Street, at 5.00 p.m.

Queen's Building, Ground Floor, Chater Road, at 6.00 p.m.

The Draw will be held in the Public Betting Hall at the Race Course, at NOON, on Saturday, 8th May, 1954.

By Order of the Stewards, PEAT, MARWICK, MITCHELL & CO. Treasurers.

NOTICE

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

Notice to Members

Australian Subscription Ponies 1955

The Stewards have ordered a batch of 100 Australian Subscription Ponies to race in 1955 and they now invite Members to subscribe for them.

An application form has been posted to every Member. In the event of non-delivery further forms may be obtained at the Club's Office, Alexandra House, 8th Floor.

The Subscription List will close on FRIDAY, 30th April, 1954.

By Order of the Stewards, H. MISA, Secretary.

NOTICE

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

CASH SWEEPS

11th Race Meeting 1st & 8th May, 1954.

Through Tickets for the above Race Meeting may be purchased per day or for both days. If purchased per day the cost is \$30, or \$40 for both days.

By Order of the Stewards, H. MISA, Secretary.

Homeward Bound



MCC cricketers Wardle, Suttle, May and Spooner, back from their West Indies cricket tour, disembark at Avonmouth, England, with souvenirs from the places they visited.

Tomorrow's Chances At The Valley

By "RAPIER"

The Eleventh Race Meeting under the auspices of the Hongkong Jockey Club will be held over two consecutive Saturday afternoons, the first tomorrow and the second on May 8.

Each day's programme will consist of 10 events, the first Saddling Bell will be rung at 1.30 p.m. and the first race will commence promptly at 2 p.m.

The most important event tomorrow is the Lancaster Handicap, while on Saturday, May 8 the Hongkong Derby will form the main attraction.

Here are my estimates of the chances:

RACE ONE

Suffolk Handicap: 1 1/4 Miles. The opening event is confined to Class 5 ponies. By being placed second in the Smugglers Pass Handicap over this distance at the 8th Race Meeting, Cleopatra (Mr Botelho) should attract the most interest among punters and should win.

However Some Again (Mr Plumby) and Easy Slam (Mr A. Noddy) should not be treated lightly as both are capable of giving a good account of themselves. The Stranger (Mr Alex Lam) and Diamond Queen (Mr C. L. Gregory) are good as outsiders only.

RACE TWO

Oxford Handicap: Six Furlongs.

This is a sprint race for Class 8 ponies and the following should be worth watching—Norse Lady (Mr Samarcq), Aeroplane (Mr Chuang), Ben Lawers (Mr Tsai), and Siratpuffer (Mr S. Tang). Norse Lady has disappointed its supporters on many occasions but may make up for it this time.

Aeroplane could make a go of it and Ben Lawers, given a good start may upset all calculations. Siratpuffer is another pony to bear in mind as an outsider, as it is carrying 139 lb.

RACE THREE

Cheshire Handicap (First Section): One Mile.

The first lot of Class 6 ponies will figure in this event and among the entries, I favour Hurry On (Mr Kwok) to take the major prize with How Do I Know (Mr H. C. Woo) and Gay Prince (Mr Chuang) fighting out the second and third positions. A pony which could cause an upset is Cornhill (Mr Parsons), while Valbridge (Mr Tsai) is by no means out of the race.

RACE FOUR

Lancaster Handicap: From The Half Mile Post Once Round & Back.

This is the main event of the day and is confined to Class 2 ponies. Gold Crown (Mr Chuang) which has shown fine form in the morning gallops should have a good chance of scoring here.

Incidentally will be taken out by Mr Plumby and I expect it to give Gold Crown a good run for the first prize. Rainbow (Mr

Wel), is also fighting fit and will be in at the finish. Meadowbrook (Mr Kwok) is good as an outsider.

RACE FIVE

Cornwall Handicap: From 1 1/4 Mile Post.

This sprint race is for 1954 Ponies. Ponies which have won more than \$1,500 or less than \$1,250 in stakes, are barred. From the entries, Possibility II (Mr Samarcq), which was second to Jingle Bell in the Talkokral Plate over the mile at the 8th Race Meeting is the best. A win here is indicated.

Good Girl (Mr Liu), can move fairly fast and should not have any difficulty in securing second position. For the third position Jungle Queen (Mr Hsu) and Timber (Mr Gregory), will fight out the issue.

RACE SIX

Cheshire Handicap (Second Section): One Mile.

The four ponies which will probably catch the judges' eyes in this race are Firestone (Mr Samarcq), Huntington (Mr Plumby), United Victory (Mr Ng) and Atomic Caesar (Mr Starr Liu).

Firestone is my choice and I think it should win, but Huntington is not to be ignored as this pony is quite dependable and I should not be surprised to see it having a say at the finish. United Victory and Atomic Caesar are also good over this distance and can be depended upon to give the above ponies a good fight.

RACE SEVEN

Essex Handicap: Six Furlongs.

Santa Claus (Mr Samarcq) and Ben, Ledi (Mr Tsai) are both in fine form and should fight to the last inch for the premier honours.

Adorable Ada (Mr Chuang) is generally believed to be a higher class animal and I don't see any reason why it cannot furnish Mr Chuang a chance to win. Tiny Grey (Mr Chun Kit), though not running over its favourite distance, is a pretty good each-way investment.

RACE EIGHT

Shropshire Handicap: 1 1/4 Miles.

It is high time that Esquilito Love (Mr Chuang) does something to redeem itself and I see

YESTERDAY'S BADMINTON

PHILIPPINE AND MALAYAN SHUTTLERS ENTER SINGLES SEMI-FINALS

Philippine-Chinese shuttler Sy Khim-piao and Malayan player Lim Yim-siek became the two foreign semi-finalists of the Men's Open Singles event of the Colony Badminton Championships which made further headway yesterday at Talkoo.

Moving about the court with the speed and elasticity of a bouncing ball and displaying strong side-line smashes and delicately-executed net shots, youthful left-hander Sy proved too good for Hongkong's second-seeded Robert Tay whom he eliminated by 15-3 and 15-12.

With Tay unable to find his length, Sy ran havoc in the first set with deadly side-whirl smashes and fine net shots to build up a 10-0 lead and win the set comfortably by 15-3.

Sy again jumped to a commanding 9-2 lead in the second set. Tay, in a last stand narrowed the gap to 7-9 and 12-13 but shot his last bolt in the process. Recovering the service Sy completed the set and match with a neat net shot and a smash.

Lim Yim-siek met with strong opposition by a gullible Jimmy Ku in the initial stages of the first set, but gradually dominated the game to win by 15-6 and 15-2.

Lim will now meet Sy in the top half of the draw while in the bottom half, Francisco Rozario will battle it out with the winner of the Bill Funk versus A. Torres match which is due to be played this evening.

Partnered by Adriano Torres Sy Khim-piao scored his second triumph of the evening by beating Jimmy Ku and Ko Wai-bong by 15-8 and 15-8. Ranked as the top combination among the visitors, Torres and Sy gave an impressive display of speed, powerful smashing and strong defence.

THRILLING MATCH

The most thrilling match of the evening was the Mixed Doubles semi-final between Chinese YMCA's Ulian Khoo and Patrick Wong and Gloria Sequeira and W. F. Foo.

This was the only game that went the full distance of three sets, with the second-seeded combination of Khoo and Wong

very little that the others can do to stop it from winning. Souvenir (Mr Alex Lam) and Penforce (Mr Kwok) should have some say in this race. As an outsider Desert Gold (Mr Chen Poo) is worth following.

RACE NINE

Stafford Handicap: From 1 1/4 Mile Post.

Class 9 ponies will try conclusions here. Judging from recent form during morning gallops, I fancy Magpie (Mr Botelho) to win but it is likely to receive strong opposition from Al Fresco (Mr S. W. Tang) and Matador (Mr C. F. Ng), both of which are capable of giving Magpie a good fight.

RACE TEN

Bury Handicap: From 2 Mile Post.

This is the final event of the first day in which Class 9 ponies will battle out the finish. The two best ponies in this race are undoubtedly Green Velvet (Mr Kwok) and Angelle Power (Mr Samarcq).

Green Velvet was officially fourth in the Shamshupo Handicap over this distance at the 8th Race Meeting and judging by that performance, it has a good chance of scoring a win here.

Angelle Power has shown improvement under the careful guidance of Mr Samarcq during morning gallops and must therefore be seriously considered. Aesthete (Mr Hung), Helophyte (Mr Tsai) and First Lady (Mr C. L. Liu) are also dangerous and must not be overlooked.

just being able to make it by 12-15, 15-9 and 15-8.

All the three sets were closely contested, and were punctuated by thrilling rallies in which both the lady players played as conspicuous a part as their men-partners.

Gloria Sequeira was in brilliant form throughout the match except towards the closing stages of the game when she lost touch with her services. Ulian Khoo, the Colony champion started off shakily with frequent errors and faulty interceptions but improved tremendously as the match progressed.

Foo played an excellent game in the first set in the back-court but slowed down considerably in the second and third sets both in the power of his smashes and in recovery.

Breach Settled Says PAAF Official

Mr Sebastian Ugarte, Vice-President of Soriano & Co. and football committee member of the Philippine Amateur Athletic Federation, returned to Manila yesterday by PAL after a short business trip.

Before his departure Mr Ugarte said he believed the "misunderstanding" between the Hongkong Football Association and the Philippine Federation has been settled. "We will not have the (students) interpret this year but we will have it next year,"

DAI DOWER SEEKS TITLE

London, Apr. 29. Dai Dower, the unbeaten Welsh flyweight, who is ranked number three contender by Ring magazine today for the world title held by Yosio Shirai (Japan), seeks the vacant European title.

He has applied to the British Boxing Board of Control, for recognition as a contender for the championship recently relinquished by Louis Sene of France. The Board will be asked to forward his claims to the European Boxing Union—China Mail Special.

Lawyer Beats Ex-Champion

Pinehurst, North Carolina, Apr. 29. Alex Welch, a young Illinois lawyer, staged an upset today by beating former US and British amateur champion Dick Chapman, one-up in the quarter-finals of the 54th North and South amateur golf tournament—United Press.

SURPRISE WIN

London, Apr. 29. The Nigerian boxer, Hogan Kid Bassy, advanced his candidature for the British Empire featherweight championship with a surprise victory at Liverpool tonight over the European featherweight champion, the Belgian, Jean Stuyvers.

Bassy won on points in ten rounds. He impressed spectators by completely outboxing his plucky opponent—France.

Best of the four players was undoubtedly veteran Patrick Wong whose steadiness under pressure and well-placed shots were largely responsible for his side's win.

In the only Men's Doubles match of the evening, Bill Funk and Wong Kai-cheung gained a comfortable first win of 15-5 over Philipines' Simeon Haw and Thu Si-gan but met with strong opposition from their opponents in the second set. Resorting to defensive play, the Philippine pair met with better success in this set, which went to 10-10 before Funk and Wong made the final spurt to win by 15-10.

TONIGHT'S HIGHLIGHT

The Championships continue this evening at the Craigengower Cricket Club with an excellent programme of six events.

Highlights of the evening's games will be the encounter between the Colony's top-seeded shuttler Bill Funk and the Philipines' National champion Adriano Torres.

Torres, who participated in the Colony tournament two years ago and who was then eliminated by Robert Tay in the quarter-final has shown some improvement but is still on the erratic side and unlikely to be able to stand up to the accurate strokes of Funk.

The singles semi-final between Lim Yim-siek and Sy Khim-piao will probably be a closer affair. Both contestants are extremely fit and long rallies should feature this match. Sy's powerful weapon is his side-line smashes but he is likely to crack up if Lim starts returning them.

Lim is slightly the better of the two in all-round play, and has the stamina to outlast his opponent.

THE RESULTS

The following are the results: Men's Singles—Robert Tay lost to Sy Khim-piao, 3-15 and 12-15; Y. S. Lim beat Jimmy Ku, 15-6 and 15-3. Men's Doubles—Simeon Haw and Thu Si-gan beat Bill Funk and Wong Kai-cheung, 5-15 and 10-15; Jimmy Ku and Ko Wai-bong lost to A. Torres and Sy Khim-piao, 8-15 and 5-15.

Mixed Doubles—Patrick Wong and Ulian Khoo beat W. F. Foo and Gloria Sequeira, 12-15, 15-9 and 15-9.

TONIGHT'S GAMES

The following games will be played at Craigengower tonight. Men's Singles—Sy Khim-piao v Y. S. Lim (semi-finals); A. Torres v Bill Funk (quarter-finals).

Mixed Doubles—Robert Tay and Helen Kwong v Y. S. Lim and Mary Wong (quarter-finals). Junior Ladies' Doubles—S. Rammedie and S. Sequeira v D. Young and Chan Yuen-yue (finals). Senior Men's Doubles—Rosario and Koh v Bill Funk and Wong Kai-cheung (quarter-finals). A. Torres and S. Lim v A. Torres and Sy Khim-piao or Jimmy Ku and Ko Wai-bong (quarter-finals).

Home Soccer Results

London, Apr. 29. The following are the results of football matches played today:

Division II

Oldham A. 0, Everton 4. Rotherham U. 4, Doncaster R. 0.

Division III (Southern)

Bristol City 3, Shrewsbury 1. Colchester U. 0, Southend U. 1. Walsall 1, Gillingham 1.

Division III (Northern)

Halifax T. 1, Tranmere R. 1. Port Vale 1, Darlington 1. Reuter.

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Page 10 FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 1954.

JOHN CLARKE'S CASEBOOK

Arthur Remembers

ARTHUR knew what it was to be ill, to be an invalid. When he was barely out of his teens, he was severely wounded and badly gassed. That was towards the end of the 1914-18 war. He was nursed back to health, or to a sort of health, for the mark of the wounds and the gassing is upon him still, and he went to work and settled contentedly into obscurity.

From the start, Arthur worked among books. First in one bookshop, then in another, each time changing his job for one offering better prospects. In course of time, he married, and he and his wife brought up a daughter.

THE BLOW

THEY were a contented family, and when a blow fell upon them 15 months ago, it did not shake their solidarity. The blow was a financial one. Because business was bad, Arthur's salary was cut. The £12 a week Arthur had been getting, the peak earning he had striven for such a long time to reach, was dropped to £10.

Arthur broke the news at home, and he and his wife and daughter went to work together, trimming their budgets. They would have got by all right in the changed circumstances, but then one day Arthur's wife was taken seriously ill. She was taken to hospital, and there for a long time she stayed.

MONEYLENDERS

THE Welfare State did its best for her, and gave her all it could of treatment and attention. But it could not provide the trimmings that invalids appreciate.

Arthur remembered the time when he had been an invalid, remembered the weary long months and the difference the trimmings had made. He resolved his wife should have all she wanted.

He had not really the money to carry out his resolution. He got himself into debt trying to live up to it, and when creditors grew clamorous, he went to moneylenders. Then the moneylenders began to press, and press hard.

On two days, recently, Arthur stole from the till in the bookshop where he worked. Twice

Petrov Affairs: The Story That Had Everything

FROM H. KING WOOD

Sydney, Apr. 23.

All the talk, of course, is of the Petrov Affairs, and it is doubtful if anything has aroused so much public interest since the outbreak of war. Long queues have been buying each edition of the newspapers as they hit the news stands and lapping up every word of the spy thriller served up to them.

And, of course, it is a story that has everything—the dramatic switch of the secret police agent, the arrival from Moscow of the two burly, sullen couriers, the love interest in the woman he left behind, mob scenes at the airport, the brawl at Darwin, and the slow fade-out as the woman joins her mate.

But a lot of people who usually have their ear close to the ground aren't particularly hopeful about the happy ending. They have a feeling that this is only chapter one of what could well be a tragic story.

These people have a tiny fear that the Government hasn't shown to good advantage what the world spotlight is focused upon it.

When Petrov first switched all seemed well. Prime Minister Menzies' statement to Federal Parliament was dignified, restrained. Members of both sides heard him in silence; all leaders later pledged support to the Government in its action.

This was something above petty party politics, we now had the eye of the world.

But it didn't remain above party politics long. The Prime Minister saw fit to answer a statement allegedly made by Mrs. Petrov at the Russian Embassy: Opposition Leader "Doc" Evatt brought into the argument on a party level by answering Menzies; Menzies answered him—and soon we were back to the parish pump.

Opinion in circles close to the Government is that the Prime Minister would have shown himself more to advantage if he had left the side issues flow along without taking part.

WORST EXHIBITION

Worst exhibition, according to many, was the affair at Darwin airport when Mrs. Petrov elected to remain in Australia. With something like 30 armed police around the plane, it would seem that other measures could have been adopted other than a public wrestling match with the Russian couriers to get their pistols from them.

Some people are saying that if these tactics were necessary it would have reflected more credit on all concerned if they had been carried out in the privacy of some office at the airport.

Maybe all that happened at Darwin was necessary, perhaps the officials showed admirable restraint, but to the layman it all seems to be a little highly coloured, and he cannot quite rid himself of a feeling that the same results could have been achieved with a little more diplomacy and a little less melodrama.

TREMENDOUS EVENT

The switch of Petrov is, of course, something tremendous—not only for Australia, but for the western world. One cannot help feeling that the stories leaking out about what the Petrov documents contain are more the results of imagination than knowledge, for it is extremely unlikely that the Government would have anyone on this job who was likely to talk. But if only half of what they are saying is true, then the promised Royal Commission is going to be dynamite.

The stories have it that some well known Australians are Red under-cover men, and that the Russian line with the industrial unrest among many of our unions is clearly shown.

Incidentally, a late tip is that Russia may fold up her Embassy in this country as a mark of protest of our handling of the Petrov affair.

All in all, the next couple of weeks promise to be interesting.

GHOST TOWN VANDALS

Some months ago this column told how the NSW town of Glen Davis, once a thriving mining community which lived on the hope of shale oil, was dying.

Today the ghost town has become a hotbed of theft and vandalism.

Vandals are stripping the 80 empty houses of the town of doors, sinks, taps and electrical fittings. Night-time prowlers are stealing scrap copper and equipment from the valuable shale oil plant that is being dismantled.

TERRIFYING TRAFFIC

John Rowe, a retired Adelaide Customs officer, who has driven his caravan 8,000 miles through New Zealand, and 11,000 miles in all parts of Australia, refused this week to drive through Sydney traffic.

With his wife, he brought his half-ton caravan and car from a tour of New Zealand, and after a foot tour of the city, "I'm terrified. Your traffic is shocking. Drivers squeeze past you, bump you, or miss you by inches. Now Zealand roads, on the edges of cliffs where two cars can't pass and where luck is needed—but I've never yet seen anything to equal the traffic in Sydney streets. I won't drive on them."

For something really out of the box, John Rowe ought to take a trip with a Sydney taxi driver at peak hour on Friday evening.

He'd really get his money's worth.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"I talked the wife into changing her hobby from singing to sewing, and now look—an embroidered monogram on my brief case!"

Given 2 Years For Manslaughter

Sentence of two years' hard labour was meted out by Mr Justice C. W. Rees, Puisne Judge, at the Criminal Sessions this morning on a 21-year-old apprentice fitter, Chin Mau-sing, who pleaded guilty to a charge of manslaughter on Friday last.

At that hearing, His Lordship had deferred sentence for consideration after hearing a plea of mitigation on accused's behalf by Miss B. K. Searle, instructed by Mr. Francis Wong. Chin admitted fatally wounding a fellow-worker, Pak Hung-chai, with a penknife in a scuffle which took place on February 2 at 68 Castle Peak Road, Tsuen Wan, where both of them were employed.

He pleaded not guilty to the charge of murder, but admitted the alternative manslaughter charge. This plea was accepted by Mr. D. N. E. Rea, Crown Counsel.

In her mitigation plea last Friday, Miss Searle had said that the evidence was that the deceased, a much bigger and older man, had picked a quarrel with the accused, and that had started the fight. The deceased, she added, was in a high state of temper.

The scuffle occurred on the eve of Chinese New Year, at a time when possibly everybody was in a rather excited state of mind.

Miss Searle had submitted further that the penknife could be by no means be classed as a dangerous weapon, and that it was most unfortunate that it led to the deceased's death.

In deferring sentence, His Lordship said he thought every consideration should be given to the accused in the circumstances.

This morning, in imposing the penalty, he commented that the penknife appeared to be more than a mere toy. It was the sort which could be made ready for use at the touch of a spring.

He told Chin that he was lucky to be receiving the sentence imposed on him.

Today's Gazetted Appointments

The following Government appointments are announced in the Gazette today:

Mr. George Lionel Vivian Hooton to be Education Officer on probation as from March 20, 1954; Miss Margaret Edith Peardon to be Nursing Sister as from March 20, 1954; Miss Esther Maureen McLaverty to be Nursing Sister as from March 20, 1954.

Miss Cecilia Cheng to be an Education Officer (Women) with effect from April 23, 1954 and Mr. Law Chung-hung, Education Officer, to be Inspector of Schools.

Mr. Desmond Francis O'Reilly to be Senior Crown Counsel, with effect from April 19, 1954.

ON ESTABLISHMENT

The appointment of the following officers to the permanent and pensionable establishment has been confirmed, according to today's Gazette:

Mr. William Davidson Leighton, Marine Officer, as from March 28; Mr. Stanley Shaw Knowles, Press Officer, as from April 1; Mr. Robert Hastie, Assessor Grade 1, as from April 2; Mr. William Rees, Assessor, Grade 1, as from April 8; Dr. John Chen Hui-ming, Medical Officer as from April 7; Mr. Clifford Isaac Wilks, Engineer, Public Works Department, as from April 7; Mr. John Montague Ebb, Marine Officer, as from April 12.

OTHER APPOINTMENTS

The Gazette announced this morning that His Excellency the Governor has appointed Mr. Ralph Archibald Wadson to be a Member of and Legal Adviser to the Authorised Auditors Board with effect from April 9 during the absence from the Colony of Mr. Harold John Armstrong.

The Governor has also appointed Mr. Johannes Herman Warming to be a Member of the Port Committee with effect from April 28 vice Mr. Reidar Johannessen, resigned.

The following Members of the Port Welfare Committee have been appointed by His Excellency the Governor with effect from April 28: Mr. Francisco Xavier d'Almada, Castro, vice the Hon. Charles Edward Terry; Mr. Colin Cairns, vice Mr. Arthur George Parker; Mr. Adamus Wilkman, vice Mr. Reidar Johannessen.

The Gazette states that His Excellency the Governor has appointed Mr. Arthur Duncan Breingan to be a Member of the Pharmacy Board during the absence from the Colony of Mr. Leopold Cecil Ayre with effect from April 19.

Imitation Firearm Charge

Cheung Sang, 21 unemployed of Un Long, was remanded for three days by Mr. Hin-shing Lo at Central this morning on a charge of possession of an imitation firearm with intent to resist or prevent lawful apprehension.

Cheung is alleged to have had in his possession in Wanchai on Wednesday an imitation revolver with which he resisted Police Constable 4207, Lo Ying. Det. Sub-Ins. Fergus is in charge of the case.

Change in Radio Programme

Owing to poor reception conditions, Radio Hongkong is unable to broadcast the opening of the Owen Falls Hydro-Electric Dam, Uganda, by Her Majesty the Queen this evening. In its place, the first of three talks by John Seymour, entitled "Trip to New India", will be broadcast at 10 o'clock, followed at 10.40 by Boulevard Cafe.

A Family To Support, No Excuse For Crime

"Nobody has greater sympathy than the Court with your family that you leave behind when you go to gaol, but were having a family to support an excuse for crime in Hongkong, nobody would be punished for anything at all," declared the acting Chief Justice, Mr. Justice T. J. Gould, this morning when the Full Court, in which Mr. Justice J. Reynolds was the other member, dismissed appeals brought by two men against severity of sentence for possession of arms and ammunition.

Appellants were Keung Shun-lam, 33, of 2 Fung Fai Terrace, ground floor, Happy Valley, and Li Keung, 27, of 6 Cameron Road, first floor, Kowloon. First appellant had been sentenced to five years' hard labour, and second appellant to two years' hard labour, by Mr. Justice J. R. Gregg on April 23, when they were found guilty by a Jury of possession of arms, ammunition and explosives without a licence.

First appellant began his appeal by alleging he had been wrongly convicted. The Full Court pointed out that they had read the papers in the case and saw no reason to interfere with the Jury's verdict, but were prepared to hear what appellant had to say against severity of sentence.

First appellant went on to say that the arms had been deposited with him by a friend. Evidence had been given at his trial by an arms expert that the arms had never been used, and in those circumstances he declared his sentence was too severe. He further said he had not committed any offence before and had a wife, three children and an aged mother to support. He asked the Court to have compassion on his family even if they felt they could not take into account his offence.

Second appellant said the arms were not found in his flat nor on his person. He asked for a reduction of sentence on those grounds.

Dismissing the appeals, Mr. Justice Gould made the comments reported above, and went on to say that a very substantial quantity of arms and ammunition and explosive substances concerned in this charge. A few years ago, your sentence (referring to first appellant) would have been ten years and not five. Circumstances in the Colony have changed to some extent and you were punished in accordance with the present range of sentences, and the Court does not propose to interfere. Both applications are dismissed.

Successful appeals against the imposition of the "cat" were brought by two men, Chan Ping, 23, and Sit Chi-ping, 23, who were sentenced by Mr. Justice Gregg on January 27 to seven years' hard labour and 10 strokes of the "cat" and to six years' hard labour and seven strokes of the "cat" for robbery with aggravation.

The Full Court allowed the appeals to the extent of the reducing the strokes of the "cat" to strokes of the cane. The sentences remain the same. The Full Court comprising Mr. Justice J. R. Gould and Mr. Justice T. J. Gould heard several other appeals against conviction and against severity of sentences.

Wong Kan, alias Ah Kan, 21, and Chan Leung, alias Sun Leung, 24, asked for reduction of their sentence of four years' hard labour and six strokes of the cane, for robbery with aggravation.

First appellant said he was only asking for a reduction and did not give any grounds to support his application.

DUE TO MARRY

Second appellant said he must leave gaol by July 3 next as he was engaged to be married on that day and wished to return to his village in order to do so.

A third man, Wu Sau-wing, alias Chu Tau, 18, sentenced to a similar term together with the other two, appealed against his conviction. He alleged he was arrested by the Police for no reason at all and when he denied any connection with the other men, they subjected him to duress by pressing his fingers against a chopstick inserted between them. He was also asked to sign a piece of paper without knowing its contents, as he could not read. He asserted the charge against him had been "trumped up."

Mr. Justice Gould, dismissing the appeals of all three men, told third appellant he had given his story of his tale and the Jury had not believed it.

Cheung Keung-kan, sentenced to four years and 10 strokes for possession of arms and explosives, appealed against his conviction.

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